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## **URGENT - OPPOSE HB:104**

<u>WARNING:</u> the **DNRC** has authorized Legislation that will take away domestic well watering rights Montanans have enjoyed for decades.

- 1. This Legislation will limit well water use to the first 1/4 Acre of your lot for lawn or garden. The rest will be left dry.
- 2. It reduces by 90% the maximum water use from domestic wells from 10 Acre feet down to 1 Acre foot.
- 3. It will create water police to monitor the new regulations.
- 4. It places limits on stock water use on tracts less than 40 Acres.
- \* "Misleading statements have replaced common sense and scientific facts." Limiting domestic exempt well use is wrong.
- \* Land with water is priceless. Land without water is useless. Montana's economy needs ground water for development.
- \* 90% to 95% of Montana's water is underground. Residential wells are only 2% of the usage in Montana. 98% Of the water is returned to the ground.
- \* If we don't use it we loose it down stream leaving Montana forever. We have more water leaving Montana than any other State in the lower 48.
- \* The aquifers, ground water and streams are replenished yearly by massive weather systems and mountain water. They are not going dry and have not for centuries.
- \* Water is essential to "quality of life" and "protected" by the Montana Constitution.
- \* Our State Senators and Representatives along with the EQC have issued a water policy report for the 2007 Session. Their recommendation is "No Change" in 35 GPM and the 10 Acre feet. LETS SUPPORT THEM!!!
- \* (This is non-partisan). It is URGENT that Democrat and Republican lawmakers protect the well water rights for Montana families.

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